# American Embassy TBILISI, GEORGIA

Country Commercial Briefing

Commercial Opportunities for American Companies in Georgia

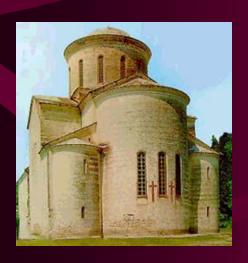
Nicholas J. Dean, Chief Political/Economic/Commercial Section American Embassy-Tbilisi

#### **COUNTRY DATA:**

SIZE: 70,000 square kilometers POPULATION: 5.37 million CAPITAL: Tbilisi 1.3 million

LANGUAGES: Georgian, Russian and English

GOVERNMENT SYSTEM: Democratic Republic







#### Where We Are

Although it is just the size of West Virginia, Georgia enjoys some of the most spectacular natural beauty in the world. The highest mountains in Europe, desert, vineyards, sub-tropical tea and orange groves and the fabled Black Sea Coast are within a few hours of each other.

#### Location - Location - Location



- Since 1883 Caspian oil has been transported through Georgia on the Baku-Batumi railroad
- Beginning in 1999, Caspian oil has been transported in the Baku Supsa-Pipeline and shipped through the Black Sea
- Poti and Batumi ports are linked to Turkey, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Russia by rail and road
- Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan will continue Georgian oil transport history

### Democratic and Open Georgia

- Georgia is a stable, functioning democracy
- Georgia has one of the highest education levels in the Former Soviet Union
- Georgia has the most free and independent press in the Former Soviet Union
- Georgia has the most progressive political, judicial and economic legislation in the Former Soviet Union

### Georgia & The World

- Georgia is integrating in the world economy and world community
- Georgia's economy is built regionally and with the West, but also is a member of the WTO and has entered the Global Economy
- Georgia continues to partner politically with its regional neighbors, but also integrates with America, the Council of Europe and many nations around the Globe

# US Exports to Georgia



# U.S. Exports to NIS

	1999	2000	2001
Russia	\$2,059.8	\$2,092.4	\$2,724.1
Turkmenistan	\$18.4	\$84.4	\$248.4
Ukraine	\$204.6	\$190.9	\$205.1
Kazakhstan	\$179.5	\$124.2	\$162.9
Uzbekistan	\$339.0	\$157.7	\$147.6
Georgia	\$83.5	\$109.5	\$106.9
Azerbaijan	\$54.8	\$209.6	\$64.5
Armenia	\$51.2	\$55.6	\$49.9
Moldova	\$10.6	\$27.3	\$35.5
Belarus	\$26.0	\$31.1	\$34.9
Tajikistan	\$13.8	\$12.1	\$28.9
Kyrgystan	\$22.7	\$22.8	\$27.7
	1		
Total in millions USD	\$3,063.9	\$3,117.6	\$3,836.4

#### DOMESTIC ECONOMY: 2001

GDP in USD million \$3,137

GDP growth rate 4.5%

GDP per capita \$680

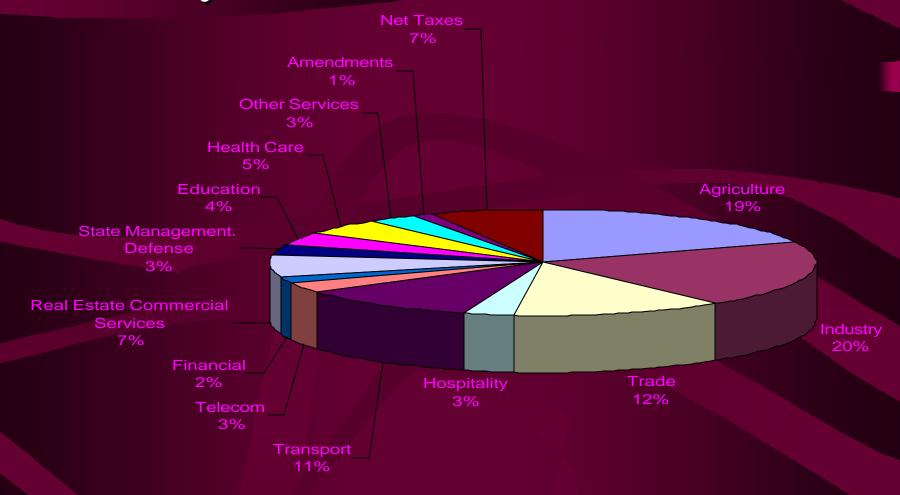
Inflation rate 3.7%

U.S. Exports to Georgia\* \$106,900,000

Average exchange rate: USD 1.00 - GEL 2.08

<sup>\*</sup> Strongest US export sectors were telecom equipment, oil and gas and machinery & frozen poultry products

#### GDP by Sector - 2001

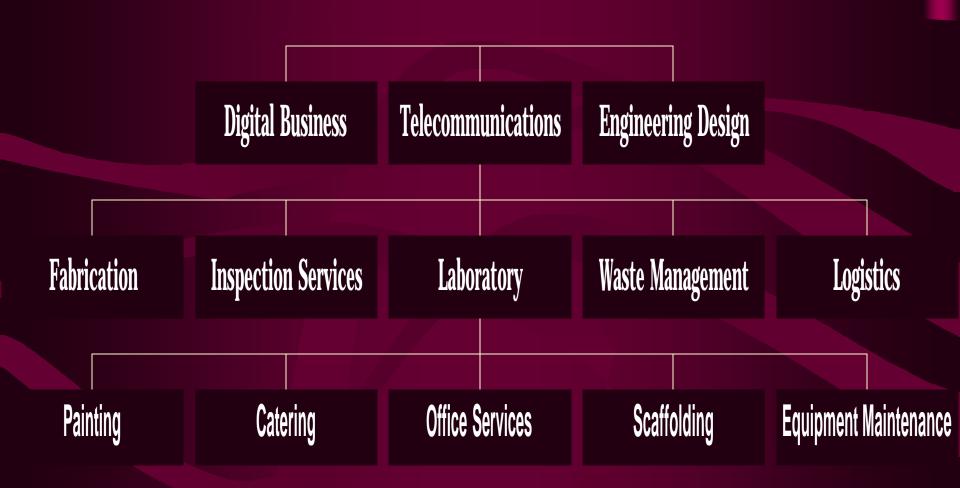


#### Country Commercial Briefing: Georgia

#### **Commercial Prospects**

- Industrial capacity available
  - Rustavi Cement Plant, Rustavi Metallurgy (steel pipe), Manganese mining and smelting, Tbilisi
     Locomotive factory, Tbilisi Aircraft factory, Kutaisi
     Automobile plant
- Construction of pipelines, infrastructure, service industries and related businesses
- Information Technologies & Telecom
- Agribusiness including value-added food-product manufacturing

# Pipeline Related Opportunities in Georgia



#### American Embassy - Tbilisi

 Political/Economic/Commercial Section of Embassy-Tbilisi has staff to assist American companies and promote American products and American services. Section can provide country data, useful information and contacts with Georgian businesses and government.

> American Embassy - Tbilisi 25 Atoneli Street Tbilisi, Georgia 380026 (995 32) 98-99-67

#### American Embassy - Tbilisi

# Nino Kumsishvili, Economic/Commercial Assistant

Services to American Companies locating to or selling into Georgia tel. (995 99) 58-64-61, email: kumsishvilin@state.gov

#### Alex Lotuashvili, BISNIS Representative

Partnering American companies with Georgian companies tel. (995 99) 57-05-20, email: lotus700@usa.net

Sheraton Metekhi Palace, 20 Telavi Street, Tbilisi, Georgia<sup>14</sup>

#### AmCham - Georgia

American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia Amy Denman, Executive Director

1 Nutsubidze Street

Tbilisi, Georgia 380077

Tel. (995 32) 25-04-94

Fax. (995 32) 25-04-95

email: adenman@amcham.ge

#### Georgian Business Confederation

American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia
International Chamber of Commerce in Georgia
Taxpayers' Union of Georgia
Georgian Employers' Association

tel: (995 32) 23-41-34

fax: (995 32) 92-18-40

e-mail: gbc@access.sanet.ge

#### Let's do business in Georgia

- Great Location
- Well Educated Well Trained Workers
  - Progressive Politically & Economically
  - Improving Infrastructure
  - Excellent American Embassy Support